

Rock Creek Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

<http://www.nps.gov/rocr/>



August 2016

Schedule of Events

www.nps.gov/rocr

202-895-6070



In August we celebrate Pokey's 21st birthday. Yes, our resident eastern Box Turtle is getting older and we will celebrate with a day of special activities on August 20th. We also will have hikes, planetarium films, and two walks will take two Pokemon Go hikes to find what's hidden while exploring Rock Creek Park. Join us for any or all of our free programs this month!

Daily

- **Perspectives of the Old Stone House** 2:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday at the Old Stone House Rangers will present insights on middle- class life in Georgetown, the evolution of a neighborhood, and the changing uses of an urban garden. **All ages.**

Weekly Programs

Wednesdays

- **Young Planetarium** 4:00 p.m. at the Nature Center Children are invited to explore the night sky and listen to star stories. **Ages 4 and older.**

Thursday

- **Nature's Classroom: STEM Time for Toddlers** 4:00 p.m. at the Nature Center join us for Toddler Time where we will share Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) activities designed for those 1- 4 years old. It could be a sensory hike, an animal feature, counting or sorting activities. Activity changes weekly . **Ages 1- 4**

Fridays

- **Creature Feature** 4:00 p.m. at the Nature Center Join us to learn about Rock Creek Park's wild critters during this interactive program featuring live turtles and snakes. **All ages.**

Saturdays

- **Summer Night Sky** 1:00 p.m. at the Nature Center Discover tonight's brightest stars, planets, and constellations and learn their stories in the Rock Creek Park planetarium. **Ages 5 and older.**
- **Exploring the Universe** 4:00 p.m. at the Nature Center Explore the solar system, Milky Way, and deep space objects in this high- tech planetarium program. **Ages 7 and older.**

Sundays

- **Summer Night Sky** 1:00 p.m. at the Nature Center Discover tonight's brightest stars, planets, and constellations and learn their stories in the Rock Creek Park planetarium. **Ages 5 and older.**
- **Exploring the Universe** 4:00 p.m. at the Nature Center Explore the solar system, Milky Way, and deep space objects in this high- tech planetarium program. **Ages 7 and older.**

Saturday, August 6

- **Buffalo Soldiers** 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Nature Center The 9th & 10th Cavalry Association "Buffalo Soldiers" will present a living history of the Buffalo Soldiers. There will be a ranger talk at 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., noon, and 1:00 p.m. **All ages.**

Saturday, August 6 (continued)

- **Centennial Hike** 11:00 a.m. at the Nature Center The National Park Service preserves historic homes, battlefields, and natural wonders. Did you know that all that can be found right here in the Rock Creek Park. Join us for a two- mile hike as we celebrate 100 years of the National Park Service. When hiking remember to wear sturdy shoes, use sun protection, and bring water. **All ages.**
- **Exploring the Sky** 8:30 p.m. at Military Field (Picnic Grove 13 Parking Lot; on Glover Road near Military Road NW) Explore the night sky through the lens of a telescope. The National Capital Astronomers Association and Rock Creek Park invite you to a friendly hour of stargazing. Cloud cover or rain cancels the event. **All ages.**

Sunday, August 7

- **Planetarium Movie: Zula Patrol Down to Earth** 10:00 a.m. at the Nature Center Hey kids, join us for Zula Patrol as they chase Madam Deliria back through geologic times in an attempt to rid the universe of litter. **Ages 4 and up.**
- **Nature Craft** 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Nature Center Join us for a morning of making nature crafts. Materials will be provided. **All ages.**
- **Herbs, Blossoms and...Buick's?** 2:00 p.m. at the Old Stone House The garden of the Old Stone House has gone through a lot of changes. In more than 250 years. Join us as we discover the history of the garden and where used cars fit in. **Age 7 and older.**

Saturday, August 13

- **Buds** 9:30 a.m. at the Nature Center Join our friends from Casey Trees for tree- focused story time interspersed with songs and a craft project. Each family will leave with a list of seasonally appropriate “scavenger hunt items” to track down while exploring the trails on their own after the program. **Ages 18 months to 4 years.** Please register at <http://caseytrees.org/events/upcoming/> (registration preferred, but not required)
- **Run of the Mill** 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Peirce Mill See the 2,000 pound millstones convert corn to cornmeal using good old fashioned renewable energy of water. Miller Jeanne and the Friends of Peirce Mill invite you to discover Washington D.C.’s only surviving gristmill in action. Be sure to explore the exhibits at Peirce Barn next door as well. **All Ages.**
- **Mill Works** 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Peirce Mill Hey Kids! Have we got something for you! Join us for fun and games at the mill. There will be toys to play with and crafts to make. Rain or shine we will be there, ready to have some fun. Be sure to pick up a Junior Ranger book and earn your Rock Creek Park Badge. **All ages.**
- **Centennial Hike** 2:00 p.m. at Peirce Mill The National Park Service preserves historic sites and natural wonders and you can find all that right here in the Rock Creek Park. Join us for a two- mile hike as we celebrate 100 years of the National Park Service. When hiking remember to wear sturdy shoes, use sun protection, and bring water. **All ages.**

Sunday, August 14

- **Planetarium Movie: Oasis in Space** 10:00 a.m. at the Nature Center Join us for a Oasis in Space and take an exploration of our solar system. **All ages**
- **Nature Craft** 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Nature Center Join us for a morning of making nature crafts. Materials will be provided. **All ages.**
- **Gotta Catch 'Em All** 10:00 a.m. at the Nature Center In 1854, the first letterbox was hidden in Dartmoor, England. Thousands of letterboxes have been hidden all over the world since then. Technology has changed. Now, digital Pokemon are hidden all over the world. Visit the Rock Creek Park Nature Center and learn trail etiquette, ‘hunting safety’ and the low tech origins of Pokémon Go. **All ages.**

Saturday, August 20

- **Centennial Hike** 11:00 a.m. at the Nature Center The National Park Service preserves historic homes, battlefields, and natural wonders. Did you know that all that can be found right here in the Rock Creek Park. Join us for a two- mile hike as we celebrate 100 years of the National Park Service. When hiking remember to wear sturdy shoes, use sun protection, and bring water. **All ages.**
- **Hatch Day** 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Nature Center We are not sure of the exact day, but about 21 years ago Pokey hatched from his egg. Help Celebrate Hatch Day!
 - 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. **Nature Arts and Crafts** Calling all kids: Join park staff for creative fun. In Pokey's honor we will be making box turtle crafts. **All Ages.**
 - 10:30 a.m. **Turtle Obstacle Course** Put on a turtle shell and see how fast you can move Remember to wear your play clothes! **Ages 4- 8**
 - 11:30 a.m. **Ranger Reads** Staff will read *Box Turtle at Long Pond* a day in the life of a wild box turtle. **Age 3 and older.**
 - 12:30 p.m. **Find Pokey a Worm** Pokey can't eat cake so lets help find his favorite food. **WORMS! Age 4 and older.**
 - 1:30 p.m. **Pokey Dance Competition** Pokey gets excited when he sees his favorite foods. Can you move like Pokey? Competition open to kids of all ages **9 days to 999 years.**

Sunday, August 21

- **Planetarium Movie: Zula Patrol Down to Earth** 10:00 a.m. at the Nature Center Hey kids, join us for Zula Patrol as they chase Madam Deliria back through geologic times in an attempt to rid the universe of litter. **Ages 4 and up.**
- **Nature Craft** 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Nature Center Join us for a morning of making nature crafts. Materials will be provided. **All ages.**
- **Herbs, Blossoms and...Buick's?** 2:00 p.m. at the Old Stone House many people stop by the garden at the Old Stone House to eat lunch, relax and enjoy the day, but the garden has gone through a lot of changes. Join us as we discover the history of the garden and where used cars fit in. **Age 7 and older.**

Saturday, August 27

- **Run of the Mill** 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Peirce Mill See the 2,000 pound millstones convert corn to cornmeal using good old fashioned renewable energy of water. Miller Jeanne and the Friends of Peirce Mill invite you to discover Washington D.C.'s only surviving gristmill in action. Be sure to explore the exhibits at Peirce Barn next door as well. **All Ages.**
- **Mill Works** 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Peirce Mill Hey Kids! Have we got something for you! Join us for fun and games at the mill. There will be toys to play with and crafts to make. Rain or shine we will be there, ready to have some fun. Be sure to pick up a Junior Ranger book and earn your Rock Creek Park Badge. **All ages.**
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Sunday, August 28

- **Gotta Catch 'Em All** 10:00 a.m. at the Nature Center In 1854, the first letterbox was hidden in Dartmoor, England. Thousands of letterboxes have been hidden all over the world since then. Technology has changed. Now, digital Pokemon are hidden all over the world. Visit the Rock Creek Park Nature Center and learn trail etiquette, 'hunting safety' and the low tech origins of Pokémon Go. Learn all the great ways to 'catch' and collect your National Parks at your National Parks! **All ages.**

What's happening this month?



On August 6 Buffalo Soldier living historians will be at the park to share stories from the past.



Enjoy a summer two-mile hike this month as we host four Centennial Hikes on August 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th.



Join us on August 7th and 21st for Herbs, Blossoms... and Buick's. This ranger talk will examine the changing uses of the garden at the Old Stone House

Rock Creek Park Visitor Center Locations and Hours

Nature Center & Planetarium = 5200 Glover Road, NW. Open Wednesday through Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Hiking trail maps and park information, plant and animal exhibits, and bookstore.

Old Stone House = 3051 M Street, NW. Open daily, 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Early American home, self guided tours, and bookstore.

Peirce Mill = 2401 Tilden Street, NW. Open Wednesday through Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Peirce Mill is an 1820s grist mill — the last remaining on Rock Creek.

Other Park Locations

Georgetown Waterfront Park = Programs meet at the fountain at the intersection of "K" Steer and Wisconsin

Meridian Hill Park = Is bordered by 15th and 16th streets NW to the east and west, and Euclid and 'W' streets NW to the north and south. Programs meet at the Joan of Arc statue.

Montrose Park = is in Georgetown with the main access through Lover's Lane. Programs meet at the top of Lover's lane on "R" Street between Avon and 31st streets NW.